



THORGAL



The Master of the Mountains

ROSINSKI - VAN HAMME



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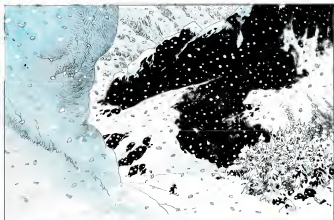
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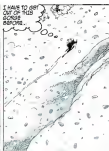
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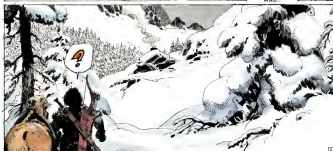
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ALL HIS NAME IS TERRIBLE
YOU DON'T HAVE ANYTHING
TO SAY TO ME FOR
PEOPLE OF HONOR

ALL RIGHT
I'LL JUST PUT
MY HORSE IN
THE SHEEPFOLD
NEAR DOOR, AND
I'LL TAKE CARE
OF THE HORSE



A RABBIT I SHOT
THIS AFTERNOON
THERE'S NOBODY FOR
THE HIDE, SO WHO
IS THIS BARBARIAN
YOU'VE COME SO
AFRAID OF?



PEOPLE FROM ANCHOR HILLS
CALL THEM THE MOUNTAINS OF THE
MOUNTAINS. HIS THE CHIEF OF
A BAND OF FELLAS WHO
WENT TO THE MOUNTAINS
TO ASK FOR THE HILLS
THEY WERE ASKING FOR
THE MOUNTAINS. THE
MOUNTAINS WERE ASKING
FOR THE MOUNTAINS. THE
MOUNTAINS WERE ASKING
FOR THE MOUNTAINS.

I'VE NEVER
HEARD OF HIM
BUT I LEFT THE
COUNTRY A LONG
TIME AGO

HE'S BUILT HIMSELF A SORT
OF FORTRESS FIVE DAYS FROM
HERE AND USING HIS MEN LIKE
A REAL ARMY. WHEN BARBARIAN
CAME THERE THEY USED SOME
STRATAGEMS, HE BRINGS THEM OUT
TO FIGHT THE TOWN ON
SUNDAY, TO MAKE THEM THE
QUARTERS AND TRY TO
RESIST THEM



THE LEAST MEN WOMEN
AND THE CHILDREN ARE
TAKEN AS SLAVES. THAT'S
WHAT HAPPENED TO ME
WHEN I WAS 10 YEARS
OLD. A SLAVE IN THE
KITCHEN, THEN IN THE
FARM, THEN FIVE DAYS
AGO, WHEN I MANAGED
TO ESCAPE AFTER
STEALING SOME
EGGS



FREEDOM IS THE
ONLY THING WORTH
FIGHTING FOR. WHAT
DOES THIS BARBARIAN
LOOK LIKE?



I DON'T KNOW. I'VE ONLY EVER SEEN
HIM FROM A DISTANCE. BUT THERE'S
ONE THING I'M SURE ABOUT. ANYONE
AS DANGEROUS AS HIM CAN
ONLY BE HORRIBLY SILENT



OK, I'M SORRY I - I
DIDN'T LEAVE YOU
ALONE

I SAW
TOMORROW
MORNING I'LL TRY
TO KILL THE
BARBARIAN WHO
HAPPENED TO
YOUR HAND



LAST NIGHT I WAS ATTACKED
BY TWO POLICE THAT HAD
BEEN ASKING ME. I
MANAGED TO PUSH THEM
BACK, BUT ONE OF
THEM NEARLY
KIPPED OFF MY TWO
FINGERS

SHOW ME

THE HOWL
OPENED AGAIN
WHEN I GOT
UPON HEARDUS
SOM SOMING

YOUR TWO FELL-
BERS ARE DONE
FOR TONITE, WE
HAVE TO ANIMATE
THEM AND YOU
MAY LOSE YOUR
ARM IF WE DON'T
SEAL THAT CUT
RIGHT NOW

YOU
SON WANT
TOP?

IT'S NOT
SOMETHING
I PARTICULARLY
WANT TO DO AND
I CAN'T FORCE
YOU TO DO
IT YOURSELF
BUT
WELL WHAT'S
THAT?

SEAL? HOW?

WITH FIRE, IT'S
A LITTLE TROUBLE, BUT
IT'S THE ONLY WAY TO
STOP THE BLOOD
FROM ROTTING



A KISS
MADE OF A
STRONG
MATERIAL
IS IT
HOW?

NO!

OK, WE'LL LOOK AT
IT LATER, SO, HAVE
YOU DECIDED?

I
TRUST
YOU.

GOOD. PUT YOUR HAND DOWN
FLAT ON HERE, ON THE NAIL,
MY NAIL IS THOUGH
AND IRON!

I WAS RAISED
BY VIGGARS, NOW
GIVE YOUR TEETH,
MY BOY, I'LL DO
IT AS QUICK AS
I CAN

AAAAAAHHHH





RETREAT, NOW
I WON'T HURT
YOU!



ALL RIGHT, I KNOW WHAT
I'M GETTING IS BAD, BUT
I NEED YOU MORE THAN
NOW HARTEN DOES,
AND...



I DETAIL
THORVAL.

DON'T WASTE YOUR BREATH,
THORVAL. I UNDERSTAND
BUT YOU'RE MAKING THE
WRONG DECISION. THAT
WORK IS TOO HEAVY
FOR YOU TO BEAR. IF
THAT CHANGES YOU







MY NAME IS THORVAL AND MY COMPANIONS
NAME IS THORVAL. I'D HAVE THORVALS
BUT JULIUS HAD MY BOY HERE. BUT I CAN
ASSURE YOU THAT YOU HAVE NOTHING
TO FEAR FROM US

DON'T
MOVE OR
I'LL SHOOT



GO ON THAT
WAS I'LL KNOW
IF I'M DREAM-
ING OR NOT

THAT COMPANION IS A
LITTLE OVER THE TOP
YOU KNOW I WON'T
WANT THORVAL TO AT
YOUR HOME



BUT YOU DON'T SEEM LIKE ONE OF
THOSE KING-WEARING FELLAS WHO
HE NORMALLY SEE AROUND HERE
YOU'RE QUITE THE OPPOSITE. GOING
HOW MUCH YOU'VE GOT ON IN THIS
SEASON



YOUR COMPANION, ON
THE OTHER HAND, IS
MORE COMFORT. INWARD
YOU PICK THIS ONE
UP IN A FISHING?

IF
YOU
COULD
OFFER US
SOMETHING
TO EAT
WE'D BE
BETTER ABLE
TO CHAT.
WOULD YOU
NO?



ALL RIGHT, COME IN. BUT
I'M WARNING YOU THAT
I'LL BE ASKING YOU
WHAT YOU'VE GOT
TO EAT



I DON'T HAVE MUCH. GOAT'S
MILK, CHEESE AND RICE CAKES

AH! ABOVE ALL, YOU
HAVE THE MOST
BEAUTIFUL BIRDS IN
ALL OF MIDGARD.
WHAT'S YOUR NAME,
PRETTY CHILD?



VLADA AND I'M NOT
YOUR PRETTY CHILD.
BUT THORVAL, WHAT
ARE YOU DOING?

*THE BATH, OPPOSITE TO ASHARD, THE DOMAINS OF THE GODS.



FORGIVE ME FOR SARA-
ARD'S HOUR KILL, LIKE THIS
BUT I WANT TO CHECK
SOMETHING

CHECK
WHAT?



WHEN I LEFT THIS HOUSE JUST A
FEW MOMENTS AGO, IT WAS IN
REDS AND BOWS THE PLACES
OF A FORD FROM THE DISTANT
PAST. NOW, THIS WOOD
IS DRY.



IT'D LIKE TO
UNDERSTAND,
THAT'S ALL

IT'S ME WHO DOBUNT
UNDERSTAND A WORD
YOU'RE SAYING. IN
GRANDFATHER BUILT HIS
HOUSE A DOZEN YEARS
BACK, AND I CAN ASSURE
YOU THAT IT HAS NEVER
BURNED



TORRICK, ARE
WE DREAMING
THE SLAVE
DREAM?

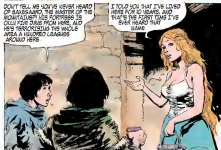
I DON'T KNOW WHAT DREAM YOU'RE
HAVING, BUT WHILE IS UNUSUAL
I HAVE COLO, AND NOW I'M HAVING
I HAVE HAVING, AND NOW I'M HAVING
I HAVE ALONE AND HAVING, AND NOW
I HAVE HAVING THE MOST HAVING
OF HAVING

HAVING
HAVING BY
WHOM?



BY THE WAY THE CURSED
SARAARD MUST HAVE
SET ON ME THEN DON'T BE
LOUS IN GRADUS, THEN
YOU'LL HAVE TO HIDE ME,
VLAM

WHO'S
SARAARD?



DON'T TELL ME YOU'VE NEVER HEARD
OF SARAARD, THE MASTER OF THE
MOUNTAINS? HIS FORGESS IS
OULL FIVE DUES FROM HAVING, AND
HE'S TERRORIZING THE WHOLE
AREA A HAVING USAGERS
AROUND HERE

I TOLD YOU THAT I'VE LIVED
HERE FOR 20 YEARS, AND
THAT'S THE FIRST TIME I'VE
EVER HEARD THAT
NAME



WHAT'S WRONG,
TORRICK? YOU'VE
STOPPED EATING?
I THOUGHT YOU
WERE HAVING



I'VE BEEN A WANDERER
LONG INTO LIFE'S JOURNALS
MARKED FOR ME

FROM MY
GRANDFATHER, HE
BROUGHT IT WITH
HIM WHEN HE LEFT
OUR COUNTRY,
KORREY. A LARGE
JEWEL, AND FAR FROM
HERE IN THE
WARM BEARS.



I WAS JUST A BABY WHEN
HE LEFT. MY PARENTS HAD
DIED, AND MY GRANDFATHER,
WHO WAS VERY KIND, SOBER,
AND A WISE MAN, TOOK ME TO
EXPLORE WHAT HE CALLED
THE KUCON AND WILSON
COASTS OF THE WORLD
BEFORE HE DIED. HE BROUGHT
ME WITH HIM.

ONE DAY, OFF THE SHORE OF
KORREY, OUR BOAT WAS
ATTACKED BY VIKINGS FROM
NORTHLAND. THEY CAPTURED
AND MY GRANDFATHER BECAME
THE SLAVE OF THE NORTHERN
VIKING CHIEF, HAROLD
DIAMOND.

BUT THE VIKINGS HELD
HIM IN HIGH REGARD. TEN
YEARS AGO, MY FATHER
CURED HAROLD'S SON,
LEIF, OF A DEADLY FEVER
OUT OF GRATITUDE, HAROLD
GAVE HIM BACK HIS
FREEDOM, AND HE
MOVED HERE.

MY FATHER
WAS NOT
TELLING ME
LIES?



IT HAPPENS THAT
I WANDERED AWAY FROM
NORTHLAND. THIS LEAF
HAROLDSON, WHICH
YOU CLAIM WAS CAPTURED
10 YEARS AGO, WAS MY
ADOPTIVE FATHER.
AND HE'S BEEN DEAD
FOR NEARLY 20
YEARS.



WHY WOULD I LIE,
THORVALD? YOU SEEM TO
BE THE ONE WITH THE
CONSPIRACY THEORY.

I DON'T KNOW
ANYONE HERE
ISN'T SO OLD
GRANDFATHER, SO I
CAN ASK HIM SOME
QUESTIONS?



I WAS HIS GRAVE LAST
MONTH, EAST OF THE
MOUNTAINS. THE
MOUNTAINS SAW LEIF
DOWN ITS FIRST RAIN.
IT WAS A PLACE HE
LOVED A LOT.

YOU MEAN
YOU'RE LEAVING
ALONE HERE?



MY GRANDFATHER MARKED ME
THAT I WOULDN'T STAY ALONE
FOR LONG. A MAN WOULD COME...
A STRONG, HANDSOME MAN, WITH
DARK HAIR, WHO COULD LOVE
ME AND PROTECT ME.





A DREAM! HA HA HA! IT WAS
ALL JUST A DREAM, HA HA HA!
BY GOD, WHAT A RELIEF!



MY BROTHER!
TODAY... WHERE
IS HE?
TODAY...

HE EVEN TOOK THE PIRTS
I LEFT HIM. FOLK
LITTLE DUBBIE! THAT'S
REALITY! REALITY!
ARE OF THE LESS
PLEASANT PART OF
MY DREAM.



100 LAYS...
OF COURSE!
TODAY! TODAY!
TODAY! TODAY!
TODAY! TODAY!
TODAY! TODAY!





WHAT I DON'T UNDERSTAND, THOUGH, IS THAT
HE LEFT NO TRACKS... NOW, IT DIDN'T SNOW
LAST NIGHT. IF I GET HOLD OF HIM, HE'LL
HAVE TO EXPLAIN TO ME HOW HE DID IT.



VERTSADAR'S AVALANCHES
I'D NEARLY FORGOTTEN IT!
BUT THIS TIME, NO NEED
TO GO AROUND IT. I JUST
HAVE TO...







DROP THE
ROPE AND
TURN AROUND
SLOWLY...



LESTRA: THIS IS
A CASE OF HIGH-
TAKING IDENTIFY-
ING ACT.

I KNOW
SAKESGARD
WANTS TO SEE
YOU. HE'S WAITING
IN THE PLACE YOU
JUST LEFT



SAKESGARD? HOW
AND FIRST, WHO WOULD
I WANT TO SEE HERE?

BECAUSE HE
HAS ORDERED IT
AND WITH THE
MASTER CROSS,
HE CAN



AT LEAST THAT'S
AN EASY RULE TO
REMEMBER. SAY
THERE'S A BOON
THERE. PSYCHA'S
HE SHOULD
TAKE IT OUT

SAH, IT'S
PROBABLY
THE SLAVE WHO
ESCAPED FROM
HIS SIX DAYS
AGO.



THE HOUNDS
WILL TAKE CARE
OF YOU HERE.
TAKE THIS HORSE
ONE OF MY MEN
WILL TAKE YOU
NOW AND BRING
BACK.



THORAL
AT LAST!



SO YOU'RE THE FAMOUS MASTER OF THE INCANTABLE. BUT HOW DID YOU KNOW HIS NAME?

OH, I'VE KNOWN YOU FOR A LONG TIME, THORVALD. AND IF THIS SLAVE AIN'T SLOWED IS DON'T I HAVE ARRIVED IN TIME FOR OUR MEETING. COME, LET'S GO IN!



WHAT MEETING? YOU SEEM TO KNOW WHO I AM, BUT YOU NEVER SEEN YOU

ARE YOU SURE ABOUT THAT?



LOOK AT MR. THORVALD. LOOK CLOSELY. DON'T I REMIND YOU OF SOMEONE YOU'VE MET RECENTLY?

!!



WMM... AT A PUGH, YOU COULD... IS IT POSSIBLE THAT YOU'RE THE FATHER OF TORRECK, THE SLAVE YOUR MAN WERE LOOKING FOR WHO STOLE HIS HORSE?



HA HA HA! WELL, OBVIOUSLY, THORVALD! EXCEPT THAT I AM NOT TORRECK'S FATHER... I AM TORRECK HIMSELF!!!

?



STOP, SLAVEGARD. I'VE HAD MY FILL OF PANTHER FOR TODAY. TORRECK'S JUST A

A KID, I KNOW. BUT FORGIVE THIS FULL COMRADE NOW



YOU YOURSELF HEALED THIS WOUND AFTER AMPUTATING THESE TWO FINGERS. DO YOU REMEMBER?

I TREATED TORRECK LAST NIGHT. THAT'S TRUE, BUT



FOR NOW IT WAS SUFFICIENT. THORVALD FOR ME, IT WAS 57 YEARS AGO!!

THAT'S
ENOUGH NOW,
BARBARIC!
UNLESS YOU
REPAIR TO
REASON,
AND...

I UNDERSTAND YOU, THORVAL.
I HAD DIFFICULTY ACCEPTING
WHAT HAPPENED TO US, TOO.
BUT I'VE HAD MORE TIME TO
DO SO THAN YOU. A LOT MORE
TIME.



WHEN THAT BRASS FELL ON US, IN THE
SLEEP-OUT, WE WERE TRANSFORMED A
LOT. I OVER 57 YEARS BACK IN TIME.
NOW I DON'T KNOW WHO 57 YEARS OLD
WAS TO, SO OR 100? I HAVE NO IDEA
ABOUT THAT. EITHER, I ONLY FOUND OUT
THEN COMBINED THE REALITY OF THE
FACTS.



FOR YOU, THE "JOURNEY" ONLY LASTED
BARELY AN HOUR. REMEMBER... WE WERE
WATCHING SON, KILARA AND I. YOU SAW
WHAT WERE YOUR FACE AS YOUR HUSBAND
AND SISTER'S SON DISAPPEARED. YOU
CAME BACK, NOW BUT I STAYED.



EVEN IF I COULD HAVE LEFT AS YOU DID, I
WOULDN'T HAVE WANTED TO. I LOVED KILARA
FROM THE FIRST DAY. SO I STAYED WITH
HER, AND I EVENTUALLY FOUND OUT. AFTER ALL
AS YEARS OF AGONY, WHAT HAPPENESS
WAS LIKE A HAPPINESS THAT, ALAS,
DIED LATER FOR SIX MONTHS.



I'LL NEVER FORGET THE DAY THEN
CAME, THE THIRD DAY AFTER THE
WINTER SOLSTICE.



A BAND OF STARVING
WARRIORS WANTED
OUR SHIP. WE HAD
NO CHOICE.

WHY WASN'T I KILLED THAT
DAY? IN A FEW MOMENTS,
I'D LOST EVERYTHING.



FROM THAT CURSED DAY OF ALL
DAYS, I STOPPED BEING THORVAL
AND BECAME A BEAST WITH ONE
REMAINING PASSION: HATE.

I SET OUT AFTER THE PELLEGRINS
AND I KILLED THEM, ONE AFTER
THE OTHER. THORVAL, THE SUR-
VIVORS BEGGED ME TO FORGET
MY VENGEANCE AND BECOME
THEIR LEADER. I ACCEPTED,
CHOOSING A NAME THAT IN
MY MIND STOOD FOR POWER
AND TERROR: BARBARIC,
THE MASTER OF THE
MOUNTAINS.



BUT... WHAT ABOUT THE REAL SARGAARD, THEN? THE OTHER ONE? HE WASN'T THERE!
OUR TORCH WAS BURNING BRIGHT!



I'M THE ONLY REAL SARGAARD THORGAL. THE OTHER ONE, AS YOU SAY, NEVER EXISTED. NOT ANYMORE. IN ANY CASE.

YOU SEE, MY FRIEND, OUR DUCKEDOUT ADVENTURE SHOWED ME SOMETHING JUST AS DUCKEDOUT AS THE EVENTS THAT WE LIVE THROUGH FROM OTHER EVENTS THAT HAPPEN IN THE PAST. IF WE CHANGE SOMETHING IN THE PAST, THEN CONSEQUENCES IN THE PRESENT WILL ALSO BE CHANGED.



AN EXAMPLE: THE SHEEPFOLD BEAM THAT BROKE ON US, DURING THE ATTACK. FOLLOWING MY OPINION, I RECALCULATED THAT BEAM SO IT COULD ONLY FALL DOWN, AND IT MUST FALL! DOWN! DOWN! DOWN! BUT IT GOT BETTER.



DO YOU REMEMBER THE WORD YOU CARVED IN THE WALL?

IT WAS A DREAM, SARGAARD. A DREAM!

TRALLY! RUB THAT BEAM, THORGAL.



YESTERDAY THIS MESS DIDN'T EXIST. TODAY IT EXISTS. AS IT WAS FOR MY NEARBY AND SOMEONE ELSE WHO MADE IT, THORGAL!



DO YOU BELIEVE MY WORD?

LET'S GO OUTSIDE FOR A MOMENT.

IF ALL OF THAT'S TRUE, WHY DID YOU COME HERE TO TELL ME FOR THE SEARS' PLEASURE OF SEEING ME AGAIN AFTER 37 YEARS?



NO, I WANTED ALL THIS TIME FOR THIS DAY BECAUSE I WAS SOMETHING TO ASK OF YOU, THORGAL.



I WANT YOU TO GO AND GET VLAHA!



WHAT?!!











I SHOULD HAVE KNOWN THAT GOOD OLD GRANDFATHER WAS BEHIND ALL THIS. WHAT WAS HE UP TO FOR SON AHOY?

HE MADE MISTAKES IF TRUCKS HE STUDIED I TOLD YOU THAT HE WAS VERY MUCH UNUSUAL



THESE PASSAGES, IDENTIFIED BY THE POSITION OF CERTAIN STARS IN THE SKY, WOULD BE VERY RARE. PHASOS CLAIMED THAT AT LEAST ONE OF THEM EXISTED IN A GREAT CAVE THAT HAD DISAPPEARED, CALLED ATLANTIS. THE REAL GOAL OF HIS GRANDFATHER'S JOURNEY WAS TO DISCOVER ONE OF THESE PASSAGES.



I'LL ADMIT I NEVER UNDERSTOOD MUCH OF ALL THAT. FOR ME, IT WAS JUST THE WISH OF AN OLD MAN. ONE DAY BEFORE HE DIED, MY GRANDFATHER TOLD ME THAT HE HAD SENT THE KIDS INTO A RARE TIME.



HIS ANXIOUS PASSION WAS FOR THE LITTLE-KNOWN NOBLES OF A CRISTIAN PHILOSOPHER FROM ANCIENT TIMES, A CERTAIN PHASOS. THESE KIDS WERE CONFINED TO A FIXED QUANTUM BUT A DISTANCE THAT CAN BE TRAVELLED IN SEVERAL DIRECTIONS.



AND HE FOUND ONE?



YES, IN THE VERY PLACE WE ARE SITTING. THAT'S WHY HE BUILT THIS HOUSE HERE AFTER BEING SENT FREE BY THE VIKINGS.

ACCORDING TO THIS PHASOS, THERE WOULDN'T BE LONG A RIVER THAT ALMOST RAN IN THE SAME DIRECTION, BUT LIKE CIRCLES, AS OUR ANCESTORS THE OTHERS, CONSTANTLY MOVING LIKE THE KID-FLIES POWERED BY A PEBBLE FLOWING INTO WATER, AND BETWEEN THE CIRCLES, THERE WOULD BE PASSAGES.



AND WHAT'S THE KIDS FOR?

I DON'T EXACTLY KNOW. MY GRANDFATHER CALLED IT THE MIRACLE. IT'S MADE OF AN MIRACULOUS MATERIAL, THAT HE CALLED DISCHARGE, AND IT REPRESENTS DISCHARGE, THE SHARK THAT STRIKES A SWALLOWING ITS TAIL. HE SAID THAT IT WAS THE SYMBOL OF THE GREAT PARADOX.



HE TOOK MY HAND AND, SMILING, ADDED THAT IT WOULD BE BROUGHT BACK TO ME BY A MAN WITH BLACK HAIR WHO... BUT IT'S ALREADY TOLD YOU THAT.







GET A GRIP ON YOURSELF, TORRIS. RISKING SUCH A THING IS DISHONORABLE. IS THAT HOW LITTLE YOU VALUE THE HAPPINESS VLAARD'S GIVEN YOU?



YOU'RE RIGHT, THAT IDEA IS COMPLETELY DISHONORABLE.



BUT I LOVE IT AND YOU'LL DO IT IMMEDIATELY GET BACK TO THE WALL AND DON'T MOVE!

PERFECT, SO AND GOOD FOR HIM, VLAARD. DO YOU STILL HAVE YOUR ROAD? YOU'RE GOING ON A JOURNEY, BOTH OF YOU A LONG JOURNEY!

TORRIS:

YOU'RE MAD, TORRIS. AN ENTIRE LIFETIME WOULDN'T BE LONG ENOUGH TO OVERCOME THE PAIN YOU'LL FEEL FOR THIS DECISION!



I'LL REMEMBER MYSELF LATER. IN 27 YEARS, ABOUT THAT, THORVAL, MAKE SURE YOU RETURN TO THE SAME TIME YOU LEFT OR ELSE I SWEAR THAT SARGAARD WILL TAKE CARE OF YOUR PAINFUL DU THE CRUELLEST WAY!



YOU FILTHY LITTLE!...

NO, THORVAL! ONLY YOU! I DON'T WANT YOUR PAIN AND SON TO BE THE BLIGHTEST KISS BECAUSE OF ME!



BESIDES, I HAVE A BETTER IDEA...





WAS THAT
YOUR IDEA?

NO, THAT WAS
A DESIRE. A
DESIRE I'VE HAD
FOR A LONG TIME.
MY IDEA IS SOME-
THING ELSE.



YAMA, WHAT HAVE
YOU DONE? NOW
HAD TO LET ME COME
BACK ALONE? I
COULD HAVE
BOILED...

YOUR PROBLEM,
PERHAPS, BUT NOT
MINE, BECAUSE I
HAVE ONE, TOO.
YOU KNOW.



YOU THINK THAT
WENT REALLY ST
WARRI LATER? IT'S
FANTASTIC

??



I KNOW, BUT... WAIT!
SOMETHING'S NOT RIGHT. THIS
HOUSE IS DIFFERENT.

THAT'S
BECAUSE THE
WOOD COULDN'T
BURN BECAUSE OF
BEING BURST,
THORSAU.



WHICH IS QUITE NORMAL, THANKS
TO NOW, THE HOUSE DIDN'T BURN
BUT THAT DIDN'T STOP ME FROM
RECONSTRUCTING SAHSAHARD, AS YOU
CAN SEE. AND YOU WERE WRONG
TO WANT TO THAW MY
FLAME.



I'M THINKING IN PARTICULAR
ABOUT A CERTAIN SLAP, THE DIS-
TANT REMOY OF WHICH STILL
BURNS... COME OUT, MEN!



YOU'LL NOTICE THAT
EVERYTHING'S BEEN
PREPARED FOR
YOUR RETURN
HA HA HA!

THORSAU!



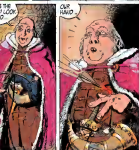
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TRAIT...

OW!

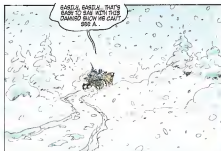














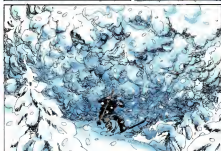






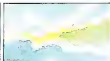


SARNGAARD: HOW DID HE DO THAT?
I DON'T UNDERSTAND.



I, TOO, HAVE LEARNED
TO KAT, TORRIG.





THE GOAL
AT LAST!



ALL THAT'S LEFT FOR
ME TO DO IS TO
PULL VILLAGES FROM
SARGHARD'S FAY
FIRE



I'M TOO LATE! AND HE'S
TAKEN THE HORSES. IF
ONLY I STILL HAD
THE SKIS...

THORAL
ABDRESCOLP



I AM GRIFFITH, FIRST LIEU-
TENANT OF SARGHARD. THE
AMMIRAL OF THE ACQUITTABLE. HE
HAS ORDERED ME TO COME
AND KILL THESE
RASCALS



I WAITED FOR YOU TO
GIVE YOU BACK YOUR
HORSE AND YOUR FIGHT.
BUT YOU HAD IN THE
SHREYOLD



MY BOY, AS SURE, AS
GLOVES, VILMA, OF COURSE!
ONLY SHE COULD HAVE
BROUGHT THEM FROM
THERE, BUT HOW DID SHE
MANAGE?

WHERE'S
VILMA? THE YOUNG
WOMAN WHO WAS
HERE WITH
SARISGAARD?

I DON'T KNOW WHO
YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT,
AND SARISGAARD IS IN
HIS FORTRESS FIVE
DAYS' RIDE FROM
HERE.



IN HIS? ... BUT HE WAS
HERE JUST A FEW HOURS
AGO, WITH THREE OF HIS
MEN, AND YOU'RE RIDING
THERE NOW?

IMPOSSIBLE
APART FROM US
THREE, NONE OF
OUR MEN HAS BEEN
IN THIS AREA FOR
MONTHS.



OH
AND NOW?

THAT? NOTHING
IMPORTANT. ONE OF OUR
SLAVES WHO HAD ESCAPED
AND GOT CAUGHT IN AN
AVALANCHE. I'LL TAKE
HIS BODY BACK AS
AN EXAMPLE.



TERRIBLE!
BUT HOW? THE
AVALANCHE
HAPPENED
BEFORE I...

I DON'T UNDERSTAND A THING, AND
SARISGAARD, THEN? THE OTHER ONE
OF COURSE... THE REAL SARISGAARD
HAS TAKEN HIS PLACE AGAIN!
THAT'S WHY VILMA COULD
RETURN HOME. BY
ODD, IT'S ALL SO
CONFUSING!



BUT HOW DO YOU
KNOW SHE WAS
GRIEZING?
AND WHO TOLD
YOU THAT YOU
COULD FIND ME
HERE?

SARISGAARD, OF COURSE,
BUT DON'T ASK ME ANY MORE
I WON'T BE ABLE
TO ANSWER YOU.



OUR LAST QUEST-
TION, THOUGH
WHO HAVE YOU
SURVIVED DOWN
THESE RIDGES?



NOW DO YOU
EXPECT ME TO
KNOW? BECAUSE
I WAS ORDERED
TO, SIMPLE AS
THAT. WE HAVE
TO LEAVE NOW.

I USUALLY FORGET
GARRIGARD GIVES ME
A MESSAGE FOR
YOU.



TIME MUST REMAIN IN THE
REALM OF THE GOOD. THAT'S
ALL. IT WOULD SEEM THAT
WOLF AND BRIGAD
FAREWELL, THORVAL.



IF ONLY YOU COULD
SPEAK... COME ON—LET'S
GO BEFORE MY HEAD
EXPLODES.



SO?

ALL RIGHT
AS YOU ORDERED
HE DOESN'T KNOW
YOU'RE HERE. BUT HE
ASKED ME A LOT
OF QUESTIONS.



IN PARTICULAR,
ABOUT A WOMAN
NOMAD, A
CERTAIN
VLADA.

YES, I KNOW
THAT'S NOT
IMPORTANT.





THORCAL

THE GODS HAVE PUT A MAN
TO THE TEST



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and Aesha



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